(b) whether with the finalisation of Combined Seniority List in the Section Officers' Grade in January, 1993 there is neither any legal hitch nor judicial stay in preparation of these panels;

(c) the reasons for delay in preparing these panels and steps Government have taken to ensure early drawing of these panels; and

(d) by when these panels are likely to be prepared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (d) Because of prolonged litigation relating to interse seniority of Direct Recruit and promotee Section Officers, Grade I panels of CSS could not be drawn up after 1986. However, a Common Seniority List (CSL) was finalised in pursuance of Supreme Court directions and issued to all the Cadre Authorities on 29-1-93. This CSL has been challenged in CAT but has not been stayed by CAT. A proposal for preparing 1987 Grade I panel has been sent to the UPSC on 21-3-1994. Thereafter, proposals for the 1988 and the 1989 Grade I panels have also been sent to the UPSC. The UPSC has been requested to prepare the panels at an early date.

Combined seniority list of Section Officers

3223. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Secretariat (Direct Recruits Gazetted) Association has made several representations to Government bringing out factual inaccuracies and inconsistencies in counter affidavits filed on behalf of Union of India in reply to the applications filed in Central Administrative Tribunal challenging the Combined Seniority list of Section Officers;

(b) if so, what are the points made in these representations and what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether any action is proposed against officers responsible for giving false and incorrect informations on affidavits and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The counter Affidavits have been filed on behalf of Union of India, based on the legal and factual position of the case filed in the Central Administrative Tribunal. The case, in any case, is subjudice at present and decision of the CAT is awaited.

Revision of pay scales of UDCs

3224. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the matter pertaining to the revision of pay scales of Upper Division Clerks working in the Central Government Departments has been referred to the Board of Arbitration where it is pending;

(b) is so, the details in this respect; and

(c) how much time the Board of Arbitration is expected to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c) A demand for revision of pay scale of UDCs of Central Secretariat Clerical Service from Rs. 1200-2040 to Rs. 1400-2600 made in the Departmental Council of the Department of Personnel and Training was considered. It was, however, not found acceptable. The matter was referred to Board of Arbitration in May, 1992, where it is pending. It has now been listed for hearing on 15th and 16th September, 1994.

Safe drinking water to rural population

3225. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state what percent of population was having access to safe drinking water in rural areas during 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI UTTAMBHAI PATEL): The State-wise percentage of population having access to state drinking water in rural areas during 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 171, Annexure No. 51.]

Development of Wasteland in Gujarat

3226. SHRI GOPAL SINGH G. SOLANKI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: